

The Journal of Tropical Veterinary Science. Calcutta : Thacker, Spink & Co.

THE appearance of the first number of this *Journal* is evidence of the increasing share of attention which the tropical diseases of animals are now receiving on account of their pathological interest and economic importance. The *Journal* has been instituted with the object of providing a medium for the international exchange of ideas between those who are engaged in research work regarding animal diseases in tropical countries, and for the publication of articles dealing with the pathology of such diseases. Everyone must admit the excellence of the idea, and trust that the *Journal* will give an impetus to research in connection with those animal diseases which are peculiar to or specially prevalent in the tropical or sub-tropical possessions of the different European powers. Should it succeed in gathering into its columns, either as original articles or as abstracts, the results of future investigations and discoveries in this branch of veterinary science, it will prove a great convenience to those who as practitioners or teachers require to keep themselves *au courant* with regard to tropical veterinary medicine. The *Journal* is edited by Major Pease, Captain Baldrey, and Mr Montgomery, of the Indian Civil Veterinary Department, and each of these gentlemen contributes an article to the first number. Major Pease writes on the subject of camel surra, Captain Baldrey on normal and rinderpest blood, and Mr Montgomery on bilharziosis in animals, while Dr Lingard contributes an article on surra, and describes a new species of trypanosome found in the blood of rats.

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## CLINICAL ARTICLES.

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### CARCINOMA OF THE UTERUS OF A COW.

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WHILST it has been demonstrated that cancer has a wide spread distribution throughout the animal world, it would appear that the same organs in the different species are not equally prone to the disease. Thus, for example, carcinoma of the uterus of the human female is comparatively common, whilst in the cow it does not appear to be of frequent occurrence. I have, however, observed cases comparable to the one I here detail, and which I was convinced were cancers arising in the generative organs.

In the absence of the uterus and its appendages, however, I was unable to confirm this surmise.<sup>1</sup> These cases showed a thick fibrous matting in the region of the anterior portion of the roof and sides of the pelvis, which in its progress had involved the internal iliac lymphatic glands and the neighbouring vessels, etc. A microscopical

<sup>1</sup> The uterus is thrown out as refuse by the butchers in the process of dressing the carcase.

examination always revealed the same histological appearance, namely fibrous tissue in which were interspersed small accumulations of epithelial cells, undergoing degeneration.

The subject of this note was an aged Irish cow in fair condition. The primary lesion was situated immediately anterior to the os uteri. The whole uterine wall was involved, commencing at the os and extending forward to the extent of some six inches. The outer surface of the involved area was smooth. The inferior face showed a central depression. On section, the affected portion of the uterine wall was found to have attained a thickness, in places, of two inches. It was composed of a fibrous and of a somewhat translucent tissue lying in irregular alternate layers interspersed with lines and areas of a material which was deep yellow in colour and solid in appearance.

The lumen of the uterus although patent was much diminished in diameter, and contained a dirty creamy-white fluid. The mucous membrane appeared to be intact. The margin of the involved area was ill-defined. In the vicinity of the primary lesions, embedded in the normal uterine wall, were a number of secondary lesions. These attained the dimensions of a hazel nut, were roundish in shape, and had a fairly well-defined margin.

The vaginal surface of the os was normal, consequently exploration would have revealed no abnormality. In the tissues of the broad ligament were a number of nodules, the largest attaining the size of a hazel nut.

From the primary neoplasm processes had extended forward, and had formed, at the anterior portion of the roof and sides of the pelvis, a thick fibrous matted layer which in its progress had formed intimate adhesions to the vessels, etc., and had also involved the right and left groups of the internal iliac lymphatic glands. From these glands the neoplastic elements had extended to and had overwhelmed the whole chain of the lumbar lymphatic glands.

The substance of both lungs was studded with nodules, varying in size from a millet seed to a walnut. The surface of the majority of those superficially situated showed a saucer-shaped depression. The margin of the pulmonary lesions was sharply defined.

The macroscopic characters of the secondary lesions were similar to those of the primary neoplasm.

Sections prepared from the primary and secondary lesions showed on microscopical examination that at the margin of the tumour the cell nests were composed of round cells, and varied in size from a few cells lying in rows or in clumps to large masses with the stroma scanty in amount; but in less recent parts the fibrous elements were seen to have become more abundant and the cells to show evidence of having undergone degenerative changes, whilst in a yet older portion the stroma was observed to have gained the ascendancy, and the pre-existent cell nests were represented by a few degenerated cells.